

FISCAL NOTE

SB 781 - HB 829

February 14, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL:

1. Creates the Tennessee Council on Literacy to be composed of 21 members who shall serve without pay but may be compensated for travel. Legislative members are entitled to be reimbursed for their expenses at the same rates as when attending the general assembly.
2. Provides for a full-time Executive Director who shall be appointed by joint action of the Speakers of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Executive Director shall have the authority to employ an office assistant and shall be provided an office and support reasonably necessary to carry out the duties of the Council.
3. Provides that subject to the availability of state funds, the Council shall award grants in the amount of up to \$25,000 per grant for the sole purpose of establishing pilot programs to enhance literacy among Tennessee elementary school students. Such grants shall not, in the aggregate, exceed the amount of \$250,000 for FY00-01, except to the extent funds are received from sources other than state appropriations. The Council is authorized to apply for federal funds and funds from private sources to fulfill its duties.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$375,100

Assumes 10 grants of \$25,000	\$250,000
Travel reimbursement for members of the council	27,000
Executive Director (Salary & benefits)	56,000
Office Assistant (Salary & benefits)	26,000
Related Office Expenses	<u>16,100</u>
Total	<u>\$375,100</u>

The impact assumes grants would not be available until FY01-02 although the bill indicates FY00-01.

It should be noted that the total expenditures to state government would be less to the extent any federal or private funds are obtained for this purpose.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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